

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service is a weekly publication of the American Federation of Labor, Inc., published at 150 N. W. 10th St., Miami, Fla. It is published for the purpose of disseminating information to the labor movement and is not to be used for any other purpose.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Published on Wednesdays except on August 15, 1942, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Approved for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Post Office Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 25, 1942.

WHOLE NO. 1824

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1946

GEORGE MEYER, Secretary-Treasurer

VOL. 36, NO. 13

Supreme Court Sidesteps Decision On Florida's Closed Shop Ban Case

Washington, D. C.—The United States Supreme Court today sidestepped a decision on the validity of the Florida State Constitutional amendment banning the closed shop by remanding the case to the Federal District Court.

The majority decision held that the District Court should not have passed on the issue until it was first tried in the state courts. The District Court had held that the amendment was unconstitutional.

Dismissing from the majority opinion, Justice Brandeis, who dissented from the majority opinion, stated that the highest court should not consider the validity of a state law until it has been tried in the state courts.

In another case, the Supreme Court held that the Federal Anti-Racket Law does not apply to fees collected by unions from workers who later left their membership.

Congress Backs Pay Raise For Government Employees

Washington, D. C.—Congress moved on two fronts to increase the pay of the Federal Government's million non-civilian employees. The House and the Senate both passed a bill to increase the pay of government employees by 10 percent.

A House Civil Service Subcommittee recommended a flat 10 percent basic pay raise to take effect July 1. This was higher than the increase recommended by the Senate, but all of the 25 percent increase demanded by AFL unions representing government employees.

At the same time, the House Post-Office Committee approved an annual 600 increase for Union No. 400,000.

The Senate also passed a bill to increase the pay of government employees by 10 percent.

In a third labor case, the court refused to give a definition of what would be sufficient evidence of a union's authority to represent a non-union grievance before the Railroad Adjustment Board. No administrative rule can be formulated for all such cases, the court held.

Green Urges OPA Extension, Warns of Profit Inflation

NWSB Gives Advance OK To 65-Cent Wage Level

Washington, D. C.—The National Wage Stabilization Board today gave advance approval to a 65-cent wage level for the NWSB, which is the highest wage level in the country.

The board, which is made up of employers and labor representatives, is authorized to establish a national wage level of 65 cents an hour, unless a basic level of 60 cents from the legislation which the 65 cent rate will become a "fair accomplishment."

Industry members dissented from the NWSB decision which gives advance approval to a 65-cent wage level. They argued that such increases, the board said, may be used by employers as a basis for further wage increases.

The view, taken by some conservative members of Congress, that such lower in substandard pay rates would result in far higher prices and increase living costs, was refuted by Stabilization Director Bowles. In his testimony before the Senate Education and Labor Committee, Bowles said:

"First, judging by my history, I should say that the longer effects of the legislation would be to raise prices rather than to raise wages. This is because higher wages increase productivity."

He is satisfied that even the immediate effects in the direction of raising prices will be few in number and small in magnitude.

"Third, even if the price effects were of somewhat greater dimensions, I would still support the program. I say this because of my fear of the huge inflationary forces which confront us. Prices that depend upon wastefulness are wasteful prices. No thoughtful consumer would choose to lengthen through lower prices if those prices are based on wastefulness."

Meanwhile, officers of pending wage law legislation are working to secure the passage of a law which would give the Federal Wage Board the power to set wages for the minimum level from 40 to 65 cents an hour. The bill also would extend the rate to 70 cents a year later and to 75 cents in 1947.

AFL Chief Warns of Boom and Collapse If Controls Are Dropped

Washington, D. C.—AFL President William Green today called on Congress to pass legislation to keep wage and price controls in effect for another year.

Green said that otherwise a runaway boom would develop that inevitably will result in another depression. He said that the country is now in a boom and that the controls are needed to keep it from getting out of control.

Green said that the controls are needed to keep the economy from getting out of control. He said that the controls are needed to keep the economy from getting out of control.

Truman Lauds Green In Improving Health Bill

Washington, D. C.—President Truman publicly praised AFL President William Green for his contribution to the improvement of the National Health Bill.

Truman said that Green's bill was a "great step forward" and that it was a "great step forward" in the fight against disease.

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Poletti Succeeds Hopkins As Head Of Joint Cloak and Suit Board

New York—Charles Poletti, former Governor of New York, was selected today as chairman of the 30-member Joint Cloak and Suit Board.

Poletti, who is a member of the AFL, was selected to succeed Joseph Hopkins, who has been chairman of the board since its formation in 1941.

The board is made up of representatives of the AFL, the National Retail Dry Goods Association, and the National Cloak and Suit Manufacturers Association.

N. E. Electrical Industry Offers Prizes For Ideas To Speed Home Building

New York City—Labor and management in the New York electrical construction industry have announced the setting up of a \$50,000 fund for prizes for suggestions from workers on how to speed up home building.

The fund was set up by the New York Electrical Contractors Association, Inc., and the National Electrical Contractors Association, Inc.

The prizes will be given to workers who submit suggestions for speeding up home building. The prizes will be given to workers who submit suggestions for speeding up home building.

Green Asks Okay Of British Loan As Step To Assure World Peace

Washington, D. C.—President Truman today asked Congress to approve a loan to Britain for the purpose of assuring world peace.

Truman said that the loan was a "great step forward" in the fight against war. He said that the loan was a "great step forward" in the fight against war.

Ornburn Urges Frankness Between Labor-Industry

Chicago—Settlement of industrial grievances through collective bargaining and voluntary arbitration was urged by J. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, in a speech delivered at the American Broadcasting Company.

Ornburn said that the labor and industry should be frank with each other. He said that the labor and industry should be frank with each other.

Tom Cashin Is Awarded Treasury Bond Citation

Buffalo, N. Y.—Thomas C. Cashin, president of the Switchmen's Union of North America and chairman of the Railway Labor Executive Association, was given the United States Treasury's highest award for distinguished service during the war.

Cashin was awarded the citation for his service during the war. He was awarded the citation for his service during the war.

Unemployment Rises, Total Now Is 2,700,000

Washington, D. C.—Unemployment continued to rise throughout the country during February, according to figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The number of unemployed workers in the United States rose to 2,700,000 in February, up from 2,600,000 in January.

Boilermakers Mapping Conference On Nation's Postwar Labor Problems

Kansas City, Kan.—Plans are being shaped today for a national conference on postwar labor problems, to be held in Kansas City, Kan., in May.

The conference is being organized by the Boilermakers' Union of America. It is being organized by the Boilermakers' Union of America.

AFL SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO LIFT FOREIGN WAGES

New York City—Robert J. Watt, AFL International Representative, today announced that the AFL supports efforts to lift foreign wages.

Watt said that the AFL supports efforts to lift foreign wages. He said that the AFL supports efforts to lift foreign wages.

GREEN WARNS SENATORS AGAINST EQUAL RIGHTS BILL

Washington, D. C.—AFL President William Green today warned senators against passing the Equal Rights Bill.

Green said that the bill was a "great step forward" in the fight against war. He said that the bill was a "great step forward" in the fight against war.

SENATE ASKS DOCTORS TO AID IN HEALTH LAW

Washington, D. C.—Public health and medical officials today urged the Senate to pass a health law.

The officials said that the law was a "great step forward" in the fight against war. They said that the law was a "great step forward" in the fight against war.

VETERANS REJECT SUPERSENIORITY

Grand Haven, Mich.—War veterans today rejected a proposal for superseniority.

The veterans said that the proposal was a "great step forward" in the fight against war. They said that the proposal was a "great step forward" in the fight against war.

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